GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2191
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
STATES VIOLATING FIELD TRIALS OF GM CROPS
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States which have witnessed field trials of Genetically Modified Crops without the formation of State Biotechnology Co-ordination Committees (SBCCs) mandated as per rules framed under the Environment Protection Act; and

(b) the action taken by the Government against the States which have violated the provisions of the Act?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Field trials have been conducted in 14 states. All states except Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Delhi have constituted State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCCs) as per Rules framed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1989. However, to ensure that the field trials are conducted in a safe manner, the Central Government has notified a Monitoring cum Evaluation Committee (MEC) comprising of multi disciplinary expertise to monitor and evaluate the field trials of GM crops through the respective State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).

(b) The State Governments who have not constituted SBCCs have been advised to do so at the earliest.